Power Station and Tenughat Hydro-Electric Project for financial support under Indo-FRG Development Cooperation Programme;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government are going to sanction these proposals; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Power restoration work in Orissa**

437. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have asked the Government of Orissa to furnish weekly report regarding power restoration activities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that restoration work in the State has suffered due to funds constraint and infrastructural bottlenecks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Out of 19062 villages affected by cyclone, 18591 villages have been electrified, leaving a balance of 471 villages to be electrified. There are 413 villages yet to be electrified in the area under Central Electricity Supply Company (CESCO). Villages which have not been restored are mostly located in inaccessible areas.

There was delay in release of the World Bank funds to the CESCO for restoration work as the signing of the Escrow Agreement for timely repayment of loan and interest to Government took some time. The Escrow Agreement has been signed by the CESCO (AES Co) on 11.7.2000 and the World Bank funds are in the process of being released. CESCO is taking steps to take necessary materials for electrification of these villages.